



## Mr. Bobby Ray Mathews

September 30, 1946 - May 25, 2025

Bobby Ray Mathews, 78, of Dewitt, Arkansas passed away on May 25, 2025.

Born on September 30, 1945, in “Little Texas” behind the front door, as he would say. Bobby was so much to so many. His life was a testament to strength and quiet wisdom. Whether offering a helping hand (or voice), sharing a story or simply sitting behind you in silence, his presence was steady.

He drove a semi-truck starting early in life and continued that for 50 years. He supported his family, and continued on as a husband, dad, grandfather, great grandfather, uncle, brother, son and a friend to many.

He had a deep love for the outdoors, especially hunting and fishing. He loved working on things, but he found peace on the water. He generously shared that passion with others, teaching many of us how to fish our first catch or track a trail through the trees. His love for teaching us to fish, hunt or work on things wasn't just a hobby- it was a way of life and through it he brought people together, passed on timeless skills and created memories that will live on for generations.

He is preceded in death by his wife Ovada Mathews of 45 years, his mom and dad Iva and Chester, 2 brothers, and his twin sister.

He is survived by his kids Bobby Mathews (Wendy), Candi (Kris) Farmer, His granddaughters, Dena (Johnpaul) Roe, Piper Farmer, Zoe Farmer, Kandis Farmer(Tyler), and Emily Farmer(Hunter). 8 great grandchildren, Drake, Jose, Logan, Blaire, Walker, Lucian, Kayleigh and Ashton. His brother Chester(Bonnie) Mathews, and a host of great nieces, great nephews, cousins and friends.

Though he is no longer with us in person, his legacy lives on in the memories that we all hold, the lessons he taught us, and the love that he gave.

Visitation will be 1:00 p.m. May 31 at Essex Funeral Home. Funeral services will begin at 2:00 with burial following in Cedarcrest Memorial Gardens.

# Cemetery Details

## Cedarcrest Memorial Gardens

Hwy 1  
DeWitt, AR 72042

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAY 31.** 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Essex Funeral Home  
1405 South Grandview  
DeWitt, AR 72042  
(870) 946-3104  
<https://www.essexfuneralhome.com>

## Service

**MAY 31.** 2:00 PM (CT)

Essex Funeral Home  
1405 South Grandview  
DeWitt, AR 72042  
(870) 946-3104  
<https://www.essexfuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall

BB

“ Uncle Bob, he was such a sweet man! I'll never forget how he looked trying to run to me when I got bit by a snake, I think he was more scared than I was lol or how I used to stick his finger and make him bleed as Zander said every week we would sit and talk for what seemed like hours. I'm thankful to have known such a kind and caring man I will forever miss him. I love you uncle Bob  
Brittney (Lil Red)



Brittney Nicole Barlow - May 30, 2025 at 12:40 PM

RM

“ Robert M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Bobby Ray Mathews.

Robert M. - May 29, 2025 at 11:17 AM



“ Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Bobby Ray Mathews.



May 28, 2025 at 03:32 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. Bobby Ray Mathews.

May 28, 2025 at 03:32 PM

JP

“ J Sue Davis And Prentice lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bobby Ray Mathews



J Sue Davis and Prentice - May 28, 2025 at 01:02 PM

JP

Bobby will be missed, he was a very sweet man.

J Sue Davis and Prentice - May 28, 2025 at 01:05 PM

DR

Thank you, that means a lot to my family ❤️

Dena Roe - May 29, 2025 at 12:57 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. Bobby Ray Mathews.

May 27, 2025 at 04:59 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Bobby Ray Mathews.



May 27, 2025 at 04:59 PM